

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 remain in this application. Claims 1, 6, 7, and 10 have been amended to avoid any indefiniteness in the claims. Although, when properly interpreted in view of the specification Applicants believe the claims as filed were definite, a amendment has been made indicating that the translation is to normalized priorities falling into a range common to all operating systems.

Claims 1-16 stand rejected as obvious over Umeno in view of admitted prior art. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The claimed invention is directed to switching a plurality of operating systems (OS) in accordance with task priorities. Each OS has a priority, and the priority of OS is determined in accordance with the priority of task which is to be executed by each OS. Usually, the range of task priorities is different in each OS. So the presently claimed invention translates priorities in each OS into priorities with a range common to the plurality of OS and compares the common priorities, which have been translated.

The priority feature of Umeno is described in terms of "the virtual interruption priority order is translated to the corresponding real interruption order by merely reading the corresponding entry of the translation table 2500" (col. 9, lines 53-56). Thus, Umeno also uses the term "priority" but the type of priority is quite different.. Interruption priority means the priority assigned to external events, while task priority means the priority of programs executed by computer. This present invention deals with task priorities, whereas Umeno only deals with interruption priority.

An "interrupt" or "event," for example, pushing a button or receiving data from a network execute at a point in time. On the other hand a "program" or "task" executing, for example, a drawing process or a registration process to a database execute along a time line. Furthermore, regarding the claimed translation of the present invention, Umeno changes physical interruption

priorities into logical priorities of a virtual computer, but does not change his priorities into priorities common to a plurality of OS.

Thus, Umeno combined with Applicants' admitted prior art does not lead one to use a priority common to a plurality of OS". Umeno deals with each OS as the same kind of OS. In Umeno, the priority type of each OS is the same and it is easy to compare the task priorities. But in the presently claimed invention, there are different kinds of OS, so translating the priorities into priorities to common plurality of OS increases process efficiency.

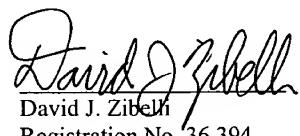
In view of the above, Applicants believe that all claims remaining in this application are in condition for allowance, prompt notice of which is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any information concerning this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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